

REGULAR MEETING-MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL-JULY 25, 2005

Deputy Mayor Gregory Haddad called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:34 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Blair, Clouette, Haddad, Hawkins, Koehn, Paulhus, Redding, Schaefer
Absent: Paterson

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Blair seconded to approve the minutes of July 11, 2005 as presented.

So passed unanimously.

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Deputy Mayor Haddad requested a moment of silence in recognition of those serving in Iraq.

IV. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Tammy Myers introduced Boy Scout Troop #61. The Scouts are working on their Citizenship in the Community badge and needed to attend a Town Council meeting.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Campus/Community Relations

No comments

VI. NEW BUSINESS

2. Stone Mill Road Bridge Replacement Project-Commitment to Fund

Mr. Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works was present to answer questions from the Council. He said that the people living on Stone Mill Road would like to keep the road unpaved. He will assist the neighborhood to apply for Scenic Road Designation. The bridge would be increased in width by two feet.

Mr. Schaefer moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective July 25, 2005, to authorize Town Manager Martin H. Berliner to accept the commitment to fund the Stone Mill Road Bridge Replacement Project.

So passed unanimously.

3. Child and Adult Care Food Program Application for Mansfield Discovery Depot

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Paulhus seconded adopt the following resolution:

Resolved, effective July 25, 2005, to authorize the Town Manager, Martin H. Berliner, to submit the attached application to the Connecticut Department of Education's Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), to help fund the food service operation at the Mansfield Discovery Depot, and to execute any related grant documents.

So passed unanimously.

Mr. Kevin Grunwald, Director of Social Services was present to answer any questions from the Council.

4. National League of Cities Technical Assistance Grant-Cities Helping Families Build Assets

Mr. Schaefer moved and Ms. Koehn seconded that effective July 25, 2005, to authorize staff to submit an application to receive a Technical Assistance Grant under the National League of Cities' Cities Helping Families Build Assets Project.

So passed unanimously.

5. Proposed Amendment to the Town of Mansfield Fee Waivers Ordinance

Ms. Blair moved and Mr. Hawkins seconded that effective July 25, 2005, to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 p.m. at the Town Council's regular meeting on August 8, 2005, to solicit public comment regarding the proposed amendment to the Town of Mansfield Fee Waivers Ordinance.

So passed unanimously.

Question from Council...Can ordinance be written to allow Town Council to amend ordinance without a public hearing, perhaps as a regulation?

VII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

- Question from Ms. Koehn, has Intrawest-The Village People met with the Downtown Partnership Board?

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- Mr. Clouette reminded Council that they had requested a copy of the comments of the State review of the Municipal Development Grant. They have been distributed. That review is proceeding.

Public Safety Committee-Mr. Paulhus reported that there would be a special meeting next month to talk about the recent escape from the Correctional Facility. Security may be upgraded.

Finance Committee-Mr. Schaefer reported that there is no report, however the

committee needs to meet with the Finance Director on the Financial Goals.

Personnel Committee-Mr. Haddad reported that the committee had met and reviewed comments regarding the evaluation survey on the Town Manager.

IX. TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

In the next packet on August 8, 2005 there will be a proposed bond referendum question for the Nov. election.

The first proposed referendum question is a one million dollar bond issue for the Community Center. The second question is a one million dollar bond issue on Open Space. There is possibly a third question on the amortization of the 30-year cost of placing full time firefighters into the Town employee retirement system.

Item # 12, the Town of Mansfield-General Fund Estimated Schedule of Changes in Fund Balance-Legal Basis. Next Council meeting will require action to make the actual transfers.

The UConn Landfill project will go forward by September. All permits have been approved and construction will begin. Ray Frigon from DEP will be on site once a week to conduct inspections. At this point the Town does not feel that they also must do inspections.

The Teen Center in the Community Center is being dedicated to Mr., Rosen on July 27th at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. Barbara Rosen and her daughter and the grandchildren will be present for this dedication.

Hilltop apartments are being worked on twenty-four hours a day to correct building corrections for code violations. Names of neighbors have been given to the University for notification of this work.

The Separatist Road Bikeway/Walkway has begun.

There was an oil spill at the Town Garage. A control of the pump, which supplies oil to the standby generator, malfunctioned and about 76 gallons flowed into the catch basin. It has been cleared up. The pump has been retrofitted with a new control and so has the one at the Town Hall.

Rob Simmons was in Town today and spoke to the Chamber of Commerce, basically about the Groton base. However he and the Director of the Downtown Partnership were able to speak with him about the Downtown Partnership project. He remains enthusiastic about the project.

There was a question raised about when you could appeal your assessment. The answer is that you can go each year when the board of assessment appeals meets and discuss your real estate or personnel property assessment at that time.

Mr. Paulhus spoke on the negotiations with the Board of Education Administrators. He did attend the meeting. Last Wednesday, they had no

problem with someone from the Town Council sitting in on the negotiations as an observer. They have a meeting in August. Future agenda item for next meeting will be the appointment of someone to this negotiating meeting. Council member would not be making decisions, only as an observer. The Council member may make suggestions, but not vote.

X. FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Redding asked about the part time youth counselor who left the Town's employment. It is a 6-hour a week position and it is being reviewed by the Youth/Social Services Department.

Ms. Koehn asked what is "Policy" for the Council? Resolution, Ordinance-how can Ms. Koehn see all of them, and when they were passed. How long do they stay in place? Does it end with term of this Council? We need a list of all resolutions.

Depot Road residents were present at the meeting, and the Director of Public Works was asked how much time to hear from the Traffic Authority about the traffic problem on Depot Road. Mr. Hultgren stated that the Traffic Authority would be meeting on the first Thursday in August. He has requested further information gathering and that would not be significant until after the students return in September/October. It will be awhile before any determination can be made. Data has been retained over the past years, but current information is needed.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Not needed.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:26 p.m. it was moved by Ms. Blair and seconded by Mr. Schaefer to adjourn the meeting.

So passed unanimously.

Gregory Haddad, Deputy Mayor

Joan E. Gerdson, Town Clerk